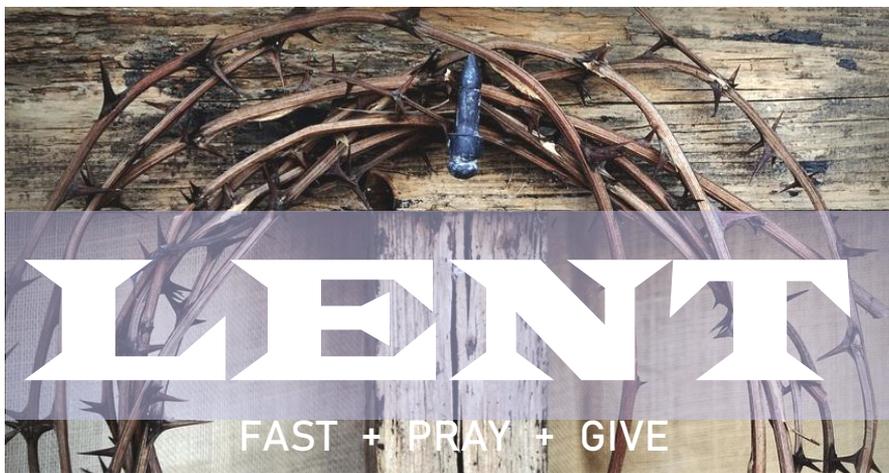




ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



grat·i·tude /'gradə,tōd/ noun

An emotion of the heart, excited by a favor or benefit received; a sentiment of kindness or good will towards a benefactor; thankfulness. gratitude is an agreeable emotion, consisting in or accompanied with good will to a benefactor, and a disposition to make a suitable return of benefits or services, or when no return can be made, with a desire to see the benefactor prosperous and happy. gratitude is a virtue of the highest excellence, as it implies a feeling and generous heart, and a proper sense of duty. **The love of God is the sublimest *gratitude*.**

-American Dictionary of the English Language.

Where is Your Treasure?

February 18, 2024

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**(Please stand in body or spirit.)*

GATHERING MUSIC

Greeting Announcements Birthdays Anniversaries

PASTOR: *"This is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!"*

PRELUDE: *"Jesus, Lead Thou On", Manz*

*CALL TO WORSHIP: **(Please stand in body or spirit.)*
(based on Psalm 100)

Leader: On your feet now—applaud God!
Bring a gift of joy!
Sing yourselves into God's presence.

**People: The Creator is our God. God made us.
We are all God's people.**

Leader: Enter with the password: "Thank you!"
Make yourselves at home.
Offer praise. Thank God. Worship God.

**People: For God is sheer grace.
God's unconditional love is ever present.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: #556 *Now Thank We All our God!"*

***THE MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION** *(Unison)*

Creator, Christ, Holy Spirit
We thank you...
for who you are, for who we are,
for our congregation.

We thank you... for this day, this time, this place, this breath,
this heartbeat. We are grateful for all your gifts and blessings.

Amen. *(Please be seated)*

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #381 *“Open My Eyes That I May See”*

PASTORAL PRAYER THE LORD’S PRAYER

A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: PSALM 23 *(read from the Message Bible)*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: MATTHEW 6:19-23
(read from the Message Bible)

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: “LENT, A TIME FOR AWARENESS
BEGINNING WITH GRATITUDE!”

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Doxology **(Stand as you are able.)* #625 unison prayer of dedication
praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above ye Heavenly host; **
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen. *(Please be seated.)*
*(**alternate: Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen)*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A TIME OF GOING OUT

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

(We offer one another the peace of Christ for the week ahead.)

*HYMN SENDING FORTH: #563 *“Count Your Blessing”*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *“Trumpet Tune and Intrada”, Purcell*
(Please remain seated “quietly” during the postlude.)

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Everyone is Welcome!

Feel at home, for Christ Jesus is our host. If you are visiting for the first time, we are delighted to have you here!

The Psalmist sings: *“Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing... thanksgiving... and praise.”*
We pray peace and joy to you, dear friend.

WORSHIP TEAM

Pulpit Supply	Rev. Jim Cunningham
Organist	Allen Cadwallader
Zoom Director	Mary K. Kirsch
Worship Producer	Brian Schieferstein
Handbell Choir Director	Shelley Harmych
Choir Director	Jennifer Wasilk
Scripture Reader	Walter Beale
Ushers	Lynn Hollstein, Judy McCurdy, Lewis Zeller, Earl Wiegand

Church News

Palm Sunday, March 24 | Maundy Thursday, March 28
Good Friday, March 29 | Easter, March 31

St. Elizabeth Homeless Shelter

2726 Caroline Ave., Lorain

Every 3rd Wednesday of the month volunteers help feed the hungry. This week on **Wednesday, Feb. 21st**, we need volunteer(s) to serve starting at 4:30 PM, or to bake cookies or cupcakes. If you want to help or have questions, please call **Betty Pekare at 440-245-1231**. Thank you for your help!

Reminder - Recycling Plastic Bags

The Amherst Leo Club, sponsored by the Amherst Lions Club, are recycling plastic bags through the TREX Recycling project. It takes 1000 pounds in a year's time to achieve the goal to receive a recycled bench. Let's help them to reach their goal for another bench! Thank you everyone.

Rev. Monica Harmon, Pulpit Supply

(Rev. Harmon will be leading worship Feb. 25 & March 3)

As a native Clevelander, I am an Alumnus of Myers College, Ashland Theological Seminary, and having completed my Clinical Pastoral Education residency at the Cleveland Clinic those illustrious intuitions and experiences prepared me for the new Associate Minister of UpCAM, I look forward to serving you.

As a believer, I have been serving the Cleveland area for many years in a variety of roles. As an ordained American Baptist minister, I worked as a hospice chaplain for several years and as an Associate Minister at East View United Church of Christ.

Trinity Church

46485 Middle Ridge Rd. in Amherst

presents

“The Shroud of Turin”

by Dave Onysko

Everyone is welcome. The event will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24th at 6:30 PM in the Worship Center.

A donation of \$2.50 is welcomed.

Snacks will be provided.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.”

Should one child go hungry? You can help!



There is a real need for the following items
for the **CHILDREN'S WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM.**

- . Single Serving PB & Jelly
- . Peanut Butter Crackers
- . Canned Soup (Pop top lids)
- . Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)
- . Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)
- . Individual Cereals
- . Granola Bars
- . Fruit Cups & Jello Cups
- . Oatmeal Packages
- . Small Bag Pretzels
- . Small Bag Chips

Please leave your donations in the drop boxes at church.

Thank you for your continued support!

We are also collecting ‘regular food items’ for families with food insecurities. Please leave your donations in the drop off boxes at the church. Pam Miskov will make sure donations are delivered. *Thanks to Pam and everyone who donates.*

When we sacrifice things that this world tells us we need, it can remind us that only God can truly satisfy our spiritual hunger.

YOGA with Mary-K

St. Peter’s UCC, enter Chapel door to the lower level | Cost: \$10
Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM (arrive by 8:25 AM)
Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM (arrive by 5:55 PM)

Prayers for the Beiswenger Family

We ask that you please keep the Beiswenger family in your prayers. We just found out that Kurt’s father, Fred passed away on Feb. 4th at Mill Manor Nursing Home in Vermilion after an extended illness. May God comfort the family and friends during the difficult days ahead.

Hey Chocolate Lovers!

The Preschool will be selling **Suzin L Chocolates for Easter**. If you are interested, the order form will be in the church office. All orders are due by March 6. Please make your check out to St. Peter's UCC Preschool. Candy can be picked up on March 19.

Thank you for your support! -Wendy Kosakowski

No Preschool tomorrow, Mon., Feb. 19th.

Please fill out the Participation cards and drop into the offering plate. *Cards should be filled out weekly.* Thank you!

Help us continue to move forward in faith by submitting your pledge card, if you have not already done so. Thank you.

“When leaving the church, please make sure to push the door closed. There have been times it’s left unlocked.” *Thank you!*



At St. Peter's we work together in love to build strong foundations for our lives in Christ. This firm foundation allows us to put **“Arms and Legs on Christ's love in the world”** We believe that God is calling you to be embraced by God's radical love and to be a part of this foundation of faith.

Join us LIVE on Facebook: **St. Peter's UCC Amherst, OH**

Zoom: Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 | Passcode: 379205
(or call in with phone: 1 929 205 6099)

The service will be posted at a later date to view on our **YouTube channel: St Peters UCC Amherst**



This Week's Events

Mon., Feb. 19	No Preschool Communion Visits, 1-4 PM Council Meeting, Zoom, 7 PM
Tues., Feb. 20	Bible Study, Zoom, 7 PM
Wed., Feb. 21	YOGA with Mary-K, 8:30-9:45 AM Coffee Chats, Sandstone, 9-11 AM St. Elizabeth Homeless Shelter Meal, 4:30 PM
Thurs., Feb. 22	YOGA with Mary-K, 6:00-7:15 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 7 PM
Sun., Feb. 25	Worship Service, 10 AM, Rev. Monica Harmon

How To Reach Us

Office Hours: Mon.–Fri. 8:30-12:30 PM and 1-2:30 PM
Afternoons available by appointment with Pastor Chris

Address: 582 Church St. Amherst OH 44001

Website: www.stpetersamherst.org

Phone: 440-988-4965

We are currently searching for a new pastor. If you need help, please contact either Christine or Kaye at the phone numbers below.

Christine Burman, Church Council President
president@stpetersamherst.org 440-522-8035

Kaye Oswald, Church Office Administrator
admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org 440-988-4965

Please visit our website, **www.stpetersamherst.org** to make your donation electronically via Breeze or Paypal.
Also, we now have the ability to accept donations by TEXT!
For more detailed information, contact the church office.

ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Please remember St. Peter's UCC in your estate planning.